

TENBURY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1948

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

1948

TENBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

<i>Names of Parishes.</i>					<i>Councillors.</i>
BAYTON	...	...	...	...	E. EVANS.
BOCKLETON	...	...	...	...	MISS PRESCOTT.
EASTHAM	...	...	...	...	K. D. BRIGGS.
HANLEY	...	...	...	...	R. H. WHEELOCK.
KNIGHTON-ON-TEME	...	...	...	...	REV. A. P. RANDLE. J. BATLEY.
KYRE	...	...	...	...	REV. J. K. H. THOMAS.
LINDRIDGE	...	...	...	...	COL. E. G. WALLACE. C. H. C. PARTRIDGE.
MAMBLE	...	...	...	...	B. DAVIS.
PENSAX	...	...	...	...	H. G. HENSMAN.
ROCHFORD	...	...	...	...	W. G. MAUND (<i>Chairman</i>).
STANFORD WITH ORLETON	...	...	...	...	H. MORRIS.
STOCKTON	...	...	...	...	CAPT. A. ASTLEY JONES.
STOKE BLISS	...	...	...	...	A. LAWRENCE.
TENBURY	...	...	...	...	M. G. ROLLO (<i>Vice-Chairman</i>). W. MIDDLETON. H. JONES. J. E. BUFTON. C. RICHARDS.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	R. W. MARKHAM, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
SURVEYOR, SANITARY INSPECTOR, WATERWORKS ENGINEER	J. F. PARKINSON, Cert. S.I.B., Assoc. Royal Sanitary Institute, Member of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association.

TENBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members of the Tenbury Rural District Council.

LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Report for the year 1948.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31,250
Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population, mid 1948									5,620
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1948	...	...	...						1,703
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£18,264
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...					£75/12/4

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The District comprises fourteen parishes, and is entirely rural in character, except for the market town of Tenbury. Agriculture, including fruit and hop growing, is the chief industry and provides work for the majority of the adult male population.

A varying number of men are employed at a number of small coal pits on the borders of the area.

During the autumn months the population is increased by fruit and hop-pickers, mostly women and children, who are brought into the district and accommodated in special quarters on the farms.

There are many small holdings in the area, and the amount of unemployment varies very little.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

					<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total</i> 1948.	<i>Total</i> 1947.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	58	35	93	112
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	3	3	6	6
Total	...	...	...	...	61	38	99	118
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population							17.6	21.4
Birth Rate for England and Wales...							17.9	20.5

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	3	1	4	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	0	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)							31.1	8.4

DEATHS

					41	26	67	61
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population							15.5	11.07
Death Rate for England and Wales...							10.8	12.0

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...				0	0
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...				0	0

INFANT MORTALITY under one year of age

					2	1	3	1
--	--	--	--	--	---	---	---	---

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS under one year of age:

All Infants per 1,000 live births							30.3	8.40
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births							32.2	8.90
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births							0	0
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales							34	47

	Total 1948.	Total 1947.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	12	7
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	0	0

CAUSES OF DEATH

Reference No.	Male	Female
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	0
12. Acute Infective Encephalitis	1	0
13. Cancer of Mouth, Oesoph (M), Uterus (F)	0	2
14. Cancer of the Stomach and Duodenum ...	3	1
15. Cancer of the Breast	0	1
16. Cancer of all other sites	4	1
18. Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	9	3
19. Heart Diseases	11	7
20. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System ...	2	0
21. Bronchitis	1	2
22. Pneumonia	1	0
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	3	0
27. Other Digestive Diseases	2	0
28. Nephritis	0	1
31. Premature Birth	1	0
33. Suicide	0	1
34. Road Traffic Accidents	1	0
35. Other Violent Causes	0	1
36. All other Causes	1	6
	—	—
TOTAL	41	26
	—	—

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

In carrying out my duties as Medical Officer of Health of the area I have the assistance and co-operation of Mr. J. E. Parkinson, who has been Sanitary Inspector of the area since May, 1932, and who is also Building Surveyor and Waterworks Engineer for the area.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

Until the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act, 1946, on the 5th July an ambulance was provided for the district by a Voluntary Committee under the chairmanship of Councillor K. D. Briggs, C.C. Since that time the Ambulance Service has become the responsibility of the Worcester County Council as "Local Health Authority." The ambulance is stationed at Tenbury.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The County Council Laboratory at Worcester was available for the bacteriological and chemical examination of pathological specimens and samples of water until the 5th July when the examination of all except food, milk and water was undertaken by the new Public Health Laboratory opened at the Worcester Royal Infirmary.

HOSPITALS

The Tenbury Hospital is quite close to the town, and though, being on the other side of the river, it is actually in Burford, Salop, it was managed and supported chiefly by the town and district of Tenbury.

The Hospital has fifteen beds for medical and surgical cases, and one cot, and is very well equipped.

For Infectious Diseases the Worcester Isolation Hospital is used.

The Public Assistance Hospital at Kidderminster is also available,

and for Maternity cases the County Council provides accommodation in three Maternity Hospitals.

After July 5th all hospitals became the responsibility of the Midland Regional Hospital Board.

TUBERCULOSIS

This work was undertaken by the Worcestershire County Council who arranged dispensary and sanatorium treatment as far as resources permitted. As from July 5th the treatment of Tuberculosis cases became the responsibility of the Hospital Board. Prevention and after care remaining under the Local Health Authority.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The County Council arranged for treatment and supervision of these cases at the nearest hospital centre until July 5th when this became the responsibility of the Hospital Board.

NURSING IN THE HOME

There are four District Nurses in the area, who also act as Midwives and carry out the duties of Health Visitors.

Two of these Nurses live at Tenbury Hospital, the other two residing in outlying parishes, and their work is so apportioned as to cover the entire area.

There are also two practising Midwives in the area (in private practice).

As from July 5th the administration of this service became the responsibility of the Local Health Authority.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER

Regular samples of the supply to the town of Tenbury have been taken and have proved satisfactory on analysis. The quantity is variable and requires to be augmented. No contamination occurred during the year.

The water is not plumbo solvent, but has an aggressive action on zinc and wrought iron, requiring the use of lead or copper piping. (See full report by Sanitary Inspector and Water Engineer).

Many of the large number of wells and springs and small private piped supplies have proved unsatisfactory on analysis. The consumers are advised what action to take according to the individual circumstances.

A scheme prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineer for the piping of water from the Flan Aqueduct (City of Birmingham) to adjacent parts of the area has been submitted to the Minister for his approval.

Number of houses supplied from Public Mains :—

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>No. of houses supplied from Stand-pipe Taps.</i>		<i>No. of houses supplied direct from Mains.</i>	
TENBURY	...	34	...	350
KNIGHTON-ON-TEMPLE	...	Nil	...	Nil
LINDRIDGE	...	Nil	...	Nil
MAMBLE	...	Nil	...	Nil
PENSAX	...	Nil	...	Nil
BAYTON	...	Nil	...	Nil
STOCKTON	...	Nil	...	Nil
STANFORD	...	Nil	...	Nil
EASTHAM	...	Nil	...	Nil
HANLEY	...	Nil	...	Nil
ROCHFORD	...	Nil	...	Nil
KYRE	...	Nil	...	Nil
STOKE BLISS	...	Nil	...	Nil
BOCKLETON	...	Nil	...	Nil

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

1. Tenbury Town.

The unsatisfactory conditions described in my last report remain unchanged except that the outfall following Kyre Brook has developed further defects.

The scheme for the provision of new sewers and an outfall works stated to be in course of preparation appears to have made no progress.

It is to be hoped that the Council will allow no obstacle to stand in the way of early progress with the scheme.

2. Rural District.

Conditions described in my last report remain unchanged.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The only serious pollution known to be occurring is that of the River Teme at Tenbury.

SCHOOLS

Little progress has been made in the repair of school buildings or the improvement of sanitary accommodation and washing facilities. In a few cases re-decoration has been carried out with considerable benefit.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

During the year fourteen houses at Frogs Close, Tenbury, were in course of erection. Sites were approved at Woodgates Green, Knighton-on-Teme, Eastham and Bayton.

At the end of the year there were one hundred and ninety-seven applications for Council houses in the district.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk Supply.
2. Meat and other Foods.

See Report of Sanitary Inspector.

No outbreak of Food Poisoning occurred during the year.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATIONS

During the year I have received notifications of the following cases :

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	10
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	5

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The importance of immunisation against diphtheria in infancy and the need for a reinforcing dose on reaching school age has been explained to parents. Immunisation is carried out at each session in the Welfare Centre and during my visits to the schools. The response has been quite good, but there is room for improvement.

Number of children under 5 who received Primary Courses	84
Number of children over 5 who received Primary Courses	19
Number of children who received Reinforcing doses	54

The five cases of diphtheria reported occurred in a gypsy family, living in an isolated community, and working on the land. It was fortunate that none of the children were attending school! As far as could be ascertained the patients had not been immunised, and all made a good recovery. The source of the infection proved to be an older daughter who was carrying the organism.

TUBERCULOSIS

Four cases were notified during the year (six in 1947).

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948

NEW CASES.					DEATHS.			
Age	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
Period.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	
1	
5	
15	I	
25	
35	..	I	I		I
45	...	I	
55	
65	
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No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

There were in the register at the end of the year the following cases of Tuberculosis :—

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.		
M.		F.	M.		F.
14	...	II	9	...	9

CONCLUSION

The provision of more houses in the district remains the most pressing problem facing the Council in the future, and it is to be hoped that nothing will be allowed to stand in the way of early substantial progress. The conditions under which many applicants for new houses are now living become more intolerable as time goes on.

I wish to thank the Chairman, Members of the Council and staff for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. W. MARKHAM,
Medical Officer of Health.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector

WATER.

The town of Tenbury is supplied with water from the Council's mains. The source of this supply is situated at Clee Hill, the water being drawn from the Millstone Grit formations there.

A connection between the Birmingham Water Conduit from Elan Valley and the Tenbury intake chamber gives a supplementary supply. The effects of increase or decrease in the rate of intake from Tenbury's source can be rectified by the turn of a valve on the supplementary supply connection.

As regards the rural parts of the district, in which there is not a sizeable village, although there are a few private piped supplies, generally the mode of supply may be said to be by Wells and Springs.

TENBURY WATERWORKS.

Towards the end of October considerable difficulty was experienced with the Tenbury Town supply.

Despite all efforts made to check a falling level at the reservoir, on Wednesday, 20th October, it was necessary to take drastic action because the reservoir was almost empty.

The supply was shut off the whole of the day except for two half hour breaks. The supply was turned on again at 6 a.m. the following morning. The reservoir level had by then improved a little, but not sufficiently to give a supply at the high levels. Properties at these levels were supplied by carting water.

The supply was shut off each night for a week and a working head at the reservoir was restored.

Night and day inspections were carried out for leak detection and a very serious leakage was discovered in an old galvanised iron service pipe at Kyrewood Lodge. Many other smaller leakages were discovered and all of them quickly repaired.

REPORT TO WATER COMMITTEE, MEETING 20th DECEMBER, 1948.

Distribution Mains.

The main from the reservoir is 5" in diameter and extends at this diameter across the River and along Teme Street and Market Street, where it branches into a 3" main along Church Street and a 4" main up Cross Street to the junction of Berrington Road. From this point, 3" mains are laid along Berrington Road (extended by a 2" main by "Norville" to Westfield Bungalows) and up Cross Street and along Bromyard Road as far as Redgate, with 2" continuations to serve the remainder of Bromyard Road, the Crescent and Crescent Place.

3" branch mains serve Kyrewood and the Ludlow Rural District Council's new housing site in Burford with a 2" continuation as far as the hospital.

Oldwood is served by a 4" main taken from the 3" main at the top of Cross Street.

In order that you may get a clearer picture of the existing distribution system and of certain suggestions which I will make in this report, it will be as well if I go over a further few facts regarding the system as follows :—

The Tenbury Supply was laid down in the year 1896 and with it the mains in Teme Street, Market Street, Church Street, Berrington Road and Bromyard Road to a point near Redgate House (The Kyrewood main was laid a little later).

In 1912 a 2" extension was laid along Bromyard Road from the 3" main near Redgate to property known as the Bolands. In 1919, twenty houses were erected along the Bromyard Road and in 1923 a further eight were built. These houses were supplied from the above-mentioned extension. In the same year the Berrington Road main was extended by a 1½" galvanised pipe to serve Westfield Bungalows. (This pipe, by the way, was replaced in the early nineteen thirties by a 2" cast iron pipe).

In 1931 a 2" branch was taken from the 2" main in Bromyard Road to serve the new twenty houses at the Crescent, this 2" branch being extended 5 or 6 years later to supply Crescent Place.

The 3" main at Kyrewood was also extended in the early nineteen thirties from a point opposite Kyrewood House to a point near White House.

In 1939, the 4" main to Oldwood was laid.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the extensions have been necessarily made mostly to serve properties at fairly high and some very high levels.

In the case of the Bromyard Road extensions, more than a hundred properties are served from a 2" pipe, the first portion of which is thirty years old.

Although most of the water mains in Tenbury were laid fifty-two years ago, it was not until 1935 (thirty-nine years later) that any work was carried out to improve the flow of water in the distribution mains. In the December of that year, because of impaired supplies at Kyrewood and the top of Berrington Road the 5" main between the reservoir and the north side of Teme Bridge was scraped and for a time some benefit was experienced at the two places mentioned.

During the recent war years, it was again found necessary to do something to improve the supply at the aforementioned high levels, including Oldwood, which had by then been connected to the supply. The 5" mains along Teme Street and Market Street, the 4" main in Cross Street and the 3" mains along Berrington Road and Kyrewood Road were then scraped.

Although some improvement was obtained by this expedient of scraping, there was, all the time, an increasing tendency towards such improvement being offset by an increasing consumption rate at lower levels.

Until the autumn of last year (1947), all branch mains in the various streets and lanes ran to dead ends. At that time, long needed improvements were made to the system by laying a 5" link from the 5" main in Teme Street through Lloyds Bank gardens to connect with the 3" dead end of the Church Street main—a 3" link through Bog Lane to connect the Berrington Road main with the Oldwood main. The correcting of the bad alignment of the Kyrewood main at Kyre Bridge and the diversion of a portion of that main from a bad track.

Suggested Improvements.

I now wish to make suggestions and recommendations for further improvement to the distribution system :—

If improvements are to be made by easy stages (I have in mind at the moment the difficult times) then I would recommend for the first stage the increasing of the size of the main in the upper half of Cross Street and along Bromyard Road to a point a little beyond the northern access to the Crescent.

This would abolish the 3" 'bottle neck' in Cross Street. It would provide a bigger volume of water to the beginning of the Oldwood branch main, and, on the Bromyard Road, a new and greater volume of water would be carried to the Crescent and Crescent Place branch mains.

An alternative would be to increase the size of the main in the upper half of Cross Street (as aforementioned), to a point just beyond the Oldwood branch, scrape the 3" main in Bromyard Road and extend it from the point where it diminishes to 2" near Redgate, to a point a little beyond the Crescent branch. This alternative would be considerably cheaper, but not so good a job. Also, the rate of encrustation is faster in a scraped main than in a new main.

If it is felt that little more could be done in one stage, then I would suggest increasing the capacity of the Church Street main, that is to say, continue the recently laid 5" link along Church Street and connect it into the 5" in Market Street near the latter's junction with Cross Street.

MAINS IMPROVEMENTS.

Diversion of the 5in. Gravity Main from the Source at Studley to the Reservoir.

For many years it has been known to the Council that the gravity main between the source at Studley and the reservoir at Harp Bank is restricted in its carrying capacity by the portion of the main which is laid in very undulating ground between "Sherbourne" and Court of Hill, and which is also defective because it was laid above the hydraulic gradient. This portion of the main is extremely susceptible to air locks.

During the year plans and specification were prepared to divert this portion of the main at a lower altitude via Dog Lane, Nash.

Teme Bridge, Tenbury.

During the year agreement was reached with the County Surveyor regarding the proposal to lay a new main on brackets across the bridge.

TENBURY TOWN WATER—ANALYSES.

Copies of analyses of two samples taken in the year are as follows :—

Sample of Town Water—13th April, 1948.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERS	...	Clear.
ODOUR	... ..	None.
DEPOSIT	... ..	None. pH 7.0

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION (Results expressed in parts per 100,000).

Solids in Suspension (Dried at 100° C)	...	...	...	...	None
Solids in Solution (Dried at 100° C)	...	...	...	...	13
Solids in Solution. After Ignition	...	...	...	...	10
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	...	...	...	...	2.8
Hardness. Permanent	...	...	...	...	4
„ Temporary	...	...	...	...	4
„ Total	...	...	...	...	8
Free and Saline Ammonia	..	...	...	...	0.0008
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.0004
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	...	...	...	Trace
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	...	...	...	...	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27° C (N/80 Permanganate)	...	...	...	...	0.013
Toxic Metals	...	...	...	...	None detected

NOTE.—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon multiply by 0.7.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar—

(a) In two days at 37° C	...	...	...	...	5 per one ml.
(b) In three days at 22° C	...	...	...	...	50 per one ml.
Coli-aerogenes (Presumptive Coli) Count	...	...	...	...	Nil per 100 ml.

The sample is fit for drinking.

Sample of Town Water—10th December, 1948.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERS	...	Clear.
ODOUR	...	None.
DEPOSIT	...	None. ... pH 7.0

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION (Results expressed in parts per 100,000).

Solids in Suspension (Dried at 100° C)	...	...	...	...	None
Solids in Solution (Dried at 100° C)	...	...	...	...	15
Solids in Solution. After Ignition	...	...	...	...	9
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	...	...	...	...	2
Hardness. Permanent	...	..	...	...	2
„ Temporary	...	...	...	...	6
„ Total	...	...	...	...	8
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.002
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.003
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	...	...	...	None
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	...	...	...	...	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27° C (N/80 Permanganate)	...	...	...	...	0.03
Toxic Metals	...	...	...	...	None detected

NOTE.—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon multiply by 0.7.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar—

(a) In two days at 37° C	...	...	...	...	2 per one ml.
(b) In three days at 22° C	...	...	...	...	40 per one ml.
Coli-aerogenes (Presumptive Coli) Count	...	...	...	...	25 per 100 ml.

The sample is fit for drinking.

WATER—OTHER SUPPLIES.

Forty-one samples of water from private wells and springs were chemically and bacteriologically examined during the year, thirty-three of which were found to be defective in quality. In these cases appropriate action was taken. Several visits were made to farms in connection with proposed Grant-aid Schemes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The conversion to the water carriage system of a large number of pail closets in Tenbury town is long overdue. In this connection about 7,000 closet pails are emptied during the course of a year and I have found that it is becoming increasingly difficult to find labour for this unpleasant job.

A re-arrangement of the sewerage system and the provision of outfall works for the treatment of sewage before it enters the River Teme is also an urgent matter.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION.

Prior to the year under review house refuse was collected in Tenbury town only.

A refuse collecting vehicle was purchased during the year and collections were undertaken throughout the whole of the rural district.

In Tenbury town collections are made once weekly and in the rural parishes once every three weeks.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

VERMINOUS AND DIRTY PREMISES.

Five cases were dealt with under this heading.

During the year a very serious infestation of flies was dealt with at a well-appointed house in the rural district.

The work of disinfection was carried out by my department and excellent results were obtained by dusting with D.D.T. and spraying with 'Vermicine.'

RODENT CONTROL.

A part-time Rodent Operative was appointed during the year and advantage was taken of the Ministry of Agriculture's grant aided scheme.

The whole of Tenbury town was surveyed and all infestations dealt with.

No. of Infestations dealt with at private houses ...	...	...	...	...	88
No. of Infestations dealt with at business premises ...	...	...	...	...	11
No. of other Infestations dealt with ...	...	...	...	...	7

INNS AND REFRESHMENT HOUSES. Sanitary Accommodation.

Frequent inspections were made of the sanitary accommodation provided in connection with Public Houses in the district and in some cases it was necessary to call the attention of the occupiers to bad conditions.

After informal action entirely new sanitary accommodation, together with a new drainage system, was provided at an Inn in Knighton-on-Teme.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Nineteen visits of inspection to factories were made, the defects dealt with were as follows :—

Water Closets ...	...	...	...	...	3
Water Supply ...	...	...	...	...	6
Cleanliness ...	...	...	...	...	10

PARTICULARS OF OTHER SANITARY MATTERS DEALT WITH.

House Drainage, etc.

(Excluding New Houses).

New Drainage Provided :

(a) To Sewer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b) To Cesspool	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
No. trapped, ventilated and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
No. of obstructed drains dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
No. of insanitary lavatories, sinks, and urinals dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
No. of additional W.C.'s installed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Defects to Sewer remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Offensive accumulations dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nuisances arising from dampness	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Other nuisances dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Visits in connection with Tenbury Waterworks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	523
Visits in connection with New Housing Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Other visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	225
Letters written during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,316

HOUSING.

Number of houses erected during the year :—

(i) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	None
(ii) By the County Council	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
(iii) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	183
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	...	298
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 & 1932	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers ... Nil

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 7

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners ... 2

(b) By Local Authority ... Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts (Housing only) :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied—Informal 98

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices :—

(a) By owners ... 4

(b) By Local Authority ... Nil

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 None

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 ... None

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part 4—Overcrowding:—

(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year—Not known

(b) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... 8

(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... 1

FOOD.

MILK.

There were in the district one hundred and twenty-three producers, there being seven new registrations during the year. The number of small producers is rather high and the district is not a large dairying one. Defects to structures, lighting and ventilation of cowsheds and to surroundings were dealt with.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Except for emergency slaughter, the six slaughter houses in the district were not used. Since early in the war, meat has been supplied from a central abattoir outside the district.

Butchers' premises were regularly inspected, as also were vans which conveyed the meat into the district.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

During the year sixty-two pounds of foodstuffs were found unfit for consumption and were destroyed.

The carcase and organs of one pig found to be suffering from Acute Generalized Tuberculosis was condemned.

HOUSING—COUNCIL HOUSES.

The Council have 136 occupied houses in their district. The 14 houses at Frog's Close were in course of erection.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1947.

The work in connection with the above is carried out by my Department.

During the year 26 applications to develop were dealt with. Ten applications were approved and six applications were refused. There were two Appeals to the Minister of Town and Country Planning.

PLANS APPROVED (Under Town and Country Planning Act, 1947 and Building Byelaws)

New Houses (Private)	...	...	...	...	6
Alterations and Improvements of Housing					
Accommodation	...	...	...	...	8
Plans other than Housing	...	...	...	...	22

HOP-PICKERS' ACCOMMODATION.

During the year four new sets of quarters were erected at farms in the district.

There are in the district 18 hop-growers and accommodation was provided at 20 premises.

Circular letters were sent to growers during the months of May and August. Each grower was sent a copy of the Byelaws.

Quarters were inspected before the arrival of pickers and several of the growers interviewed. During the picking season systematic inspections of pickers' quarters were carried out.

At several farms there was some improvement upon last year, but at Lambswick and Little Lambswick, Lindridge, the quarters are very bad.

No formal action was taken under the byelaws in force in this district for securing the decent lodging and accommodation of hop-pickers and other persons engaged temporarily in picking, gathering or lifting fruit, flowers, bulbs, roots or vegetables in the Rural District of Tenbury.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. E. PARKINSON,

Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor and Waterworks Engineer.

